

## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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COUNTRY China

## REPORT

SUBJECT Construction of Invasion Barges,  
Port Arthur

DATE DISTR. / November 1955

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NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFO.

## REQUIREMENT

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**PLACE ACQUIRED**

## REFERENCES

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. [redacted] the Chinese were constructing steel-hulled, self-propelled invasion barges at the Sino-Soviet Shipbuilding Company in Port Arthur. At least 70 barges were moored in the harbor, and others were under construction. Huge stocks of steel plates were in evidence; and the construction workers were using the very latest drilling, welding, riveting, and automatic hammering equipment. The barges were of standard size, 12-14 feet wide, approximately 45 feet long, and with pivoted bows that could be lowered as loading ramps. A unique feature was a full-length shield along each side which arched over the boat leaving a gap of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 feet above the center. The shield was perforated at intervals with openings for guns. The shield was raised about four feet above the gunnel, which in turn was about three to four feet above the water line. The shield was made of 11-gauge steel.
2. The Sino-Soviet Shipbuilding Company in Port Arthur was part of a parent company. The yard had two dry docks and employed about 500 workers in the construction of 700-to 800-ton steamships. The barges were built across the inlet opposite the site visited by delegates to a trade union conference; but some were tied along piers visited by them.
3. [redacted]
4. Sketches of the barges are reproduced in attachment A.

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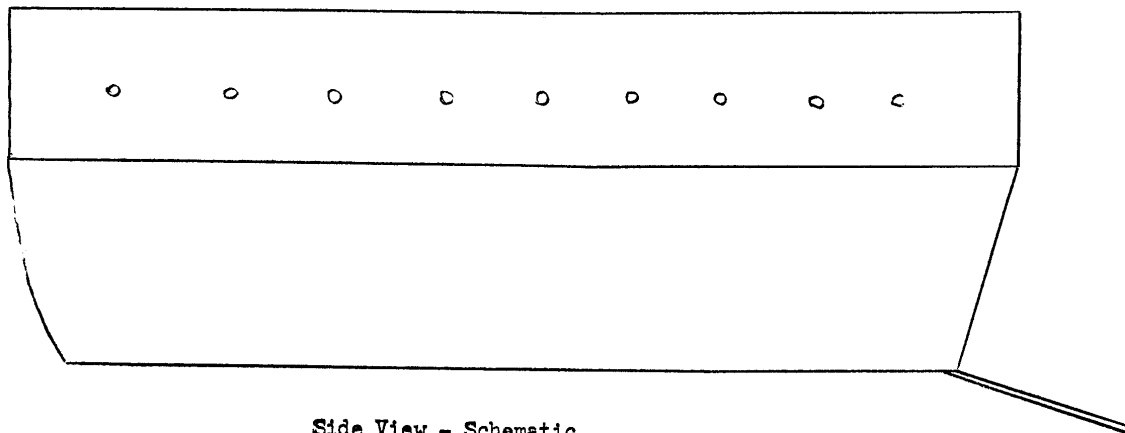
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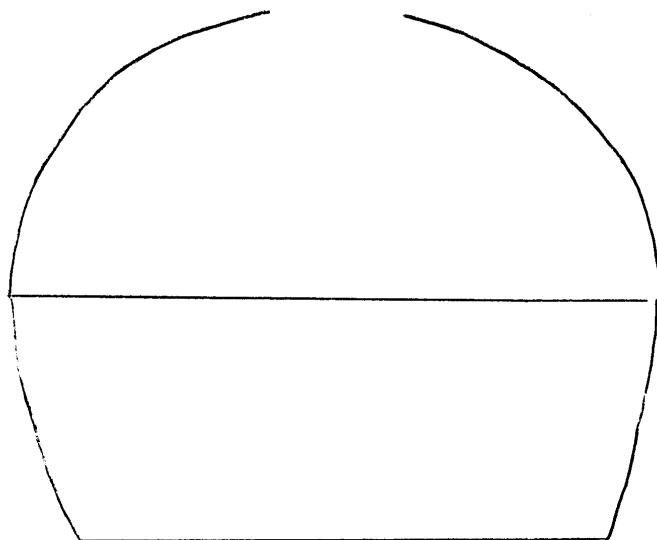
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ATTACHMENT A



Side View - Schematic



End View

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